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A Short History of Peoples Hospital, St. Louis, Mo.

THE Peoples Hospital was incorporated May 9, 1894, under the name of "Provident Hospital," by Dr. James E. Yeatman, Dr. Augustus Isaac H. Sturgeon, Frank P. Thompson, Hale G. Parker, James S. Shaffner and Frank F. Scott, the last three being colored men and the others some of the most prominent white citizens of that time.

The hospital was opened for the reception of patients in April, 1899, in the old L. M. Rumsey

and Dollars, and the hospital was moved to that location, where the work was successfully carried on until April 1916, when the board of directors voted "to close the hospital temporarily for repairs and cleaning up."

After the closing, the board of directors continued to hold meetings, but nothing definite was done until the latter part of 1917 when it decided to amend the constitution so that the maximum membership of the association would



residence, at the Northwest corner of Morgan & Beaumont Streets. About two years later a training school for nurses was added, by amending the Articles of Association, from which several young women were graduated, some of whom are still engaged in their profession in this city and other places.

In August, 1907, an old residence at 2824 Lawton Avenue was purchased for Five Thous-

not be limited to the twenty-five persons who constituted the board of directors (at its maximum), as was the case under the original charter. Accordingly the Articles of Association were so amended as not to limit the membership, and to vest the powers of the corporation in a board of directors, to be elected by the association. Under the same amendments the name of the hospital was changed from

"Provident Hospital" to "The People's Hospital."

The present building at 3447-49 Pine Boulevard was purchased for \$22,500.00, on a cash payment of \$1,000.00, and the building at 2824 Lawton Avenue was sold. A new board of directors was elected and the hospital was reopened in the new buildings in the fall of 1918.

From the time of the acquisition of the new location, Peoples Hospital has constantly pushed forward in its work in the community. Until recently, the hospital was the only institution in the city of St. Louis where physicians could practice and operate on their private colored patients.

The hospital has been a member of the Community Fund since the organization of the Fund. It is indorsed by the Chamber of Commerce. In 1936 it was given the approval of the American College of Surgeons and is registered by the American Medical Association and

a member of the American Hospital Association and other affiliated associations. The hospital is also a charter member of the St. Louis Hospital Council. In its efforts to keep up the progress of the times the hospital is also a member of Group Hospital Service, Inc., an organization whose purpose it is to provide hospital facilities in approved hospitals at a low rate for its members.

At the annual meeting for 1936 the number of members of the board of directors was increased from 15 to 21 with the hope that a wider and larger group of people would become interested in the hospital. For the past few years a renaissance of interest in People's has been evident, and we at the hospital are in hopes that this interest will continue to grow so that we can render a wider and more lasting service to the community. The administration of the hospital continues to stress its cardinal principles of service supreme, sympathetic care and dietary excellence.

St. Mary's Infirmary as a Hospital for Colored People

A. N. VAUGHN, M.D.

St. Louis, Mo.

IN March, 1933, St. Mary's Infirmary located at 1536 Papin Street, St. Louis, Missouri, was opened as a hospital for colored people. The building is a six story structure with 150 bed capacity, and fully equipped pathologically and with X-ray laboratories. On the grounds are a chapel, nurses' dormitory and a class room building.

The institution is operated by the Sisters of St. Mary—a Catholic organization and is one of the staff related hospitals of St. Louis University Medical School.

The staff is a bi-racial one. The active visiting staff is composed of colored physicians. There is a consulting staff composed of the heads of departments of St. Louis University Medical School, who do not visit regularly but answer consultations when requested by the visiting staff.

The service is a classified one, with the following divisions: I. Internal Medicine. a. pediatrics. b. neurology. c. dermatology.

II. Surgery. a. urology. b. orthopedics. c. ophthalmology. d. otolaryngology.

III. Gynecology and Obstetrics.

IV. Radiology. a. diagnostic. b. therapeutic.

Each service has a chief with senior and junior visiting physicians under him.

The hospital conducts a nurse training school with a regular three year course of study leading to graduation. The first class, twelve in number, graduated in June, 1936. All of them made creditable and passing grades before the several state boards which they took. The school is fully accredited for the training of nurses.

The hospital is rated class A by the hospital board of the American Medical Association and